GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1818
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2006
CONTAMINATION OF IMPORTED WHEAT
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan;Nikhil Kumar Shri

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) Whether large scale contamination of imported wheat due to the use of substandard packing has been reported recently ;

(b) If so, wehther the jute bags used for packing of imported wheat did not conform to Bureau of Indian Standard norms;

(c) If so, whether the issue has been taken up with the Ministry of Textiles ;

(d) If so, the reaction of Ministry of Textiles thereto; and

(e) The steps being taken for the protection and proper packaging of imported wheat?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) : No, Sir.

(b) : Some jute bags not confirming to BIS specification were found by the FCI.

(c) : Yes, Sir.

(d) : Accordingly the Ministry of Textiles have constituted a Joint Inspection Team consisting of Food Corporation of India (FCI), Indian Jute Mills Association (IJMA), Directorate General of Supply & Disposal (DGS&D), Directorate of Quality Assurance and Office of Jute Commissioner, Kolkota to conduct an inspection regarding conformity of jute bags to BIS standards. Jute Commissioner has also initiated action against the alleged defaulting units.

(e) : To ensure quality, FCI has been purchasing jute bags through DGS&D. The jute bags are checked for quality by DGS&D before they are accepted by FCI for packing foodgrains.